Brighton, Dec. 19 1837.

My Mother, my dear dear Brother

How I wish if you remember Marie, who lost the season of that pleasure [illegible] earthly friend may her sorrow mourn again! I do not doubt but you still is remembered but at present she is pursued by dreams of receiving a memento. Five months have gone by since [illegible] I have received a word of counsel admonition, instruction, or affection from that dear honoured parent to whom, next to my heavenly Father I owe my life, and all that I have and am. I will not complain, but I should love a cup of cold water from that hand which has so often ministered to my wants and comforted my heart admonished me in my waywardness and directed my steps to the path in which I should go. My dear Mother I never expect to realize in full the debt of gratitude I owe to you but I can say that I am every day [illegible] of my life experiencing the benefit of your instruction, forbearance and example — when I think of the [illegible] inviting expression of my Mother "Patience and perseverance Marie" will accomplish it," it often leads me on to further effort and greater diligence; when I think of her patience [illegible] and forbearance with me in my childhood and youth the branch all my disobedience, unkindness, fruitlessness and insensibility of [illegible] leads me to the greater God assisting me to exercise patience toward those who are placed under my charge, and to admonish at the same time with gentleness, and mildness — to strive to manifest toward others that same watchful care & forbearance which has ever been manifested toward me — and when I remember her her example in doing good to those about her, in exciting all in her power to [illegible] I long to imitate it — but I find I fall far short of it. Yet I am not entirely discouraged — for in looking back upon a few of the last months of my life I do think my Saviour has given me grace to overcome some of my selfish propensities and to seek not altogether my own but another's welfare — but it is the grace of God alone that enables me to do any thing as I should do. I feel that I am entirely dependent upon it to perform one act acceptable in the sight of my heavenly Father, so that boasting is excluded — [illegible] could not plead the merits my Saviour — were it not that the only begotten Son is at the bosom of the Father, before whom his righteousness stands complete, I should be of creatures most destitute — but with this confidence to me I feel that I need not despair — and while I mourn over my former ingratitude to the best of earthly friends and strive to realize my present obligations to her, and firmly resolve, more again, knowingly, to wound her feelings — I would look still further and consider the source of all blessings — and I find one to whom I am still more indebted — who gave me my Mother, qualified her by his grace for her station, and made her the instrument of good to me — and have I been ungrateful to Him too? abused not only His blessings bestowed, but the heart that bestowed them? Oh my dear Mother I feel that I have been ungrateful to you — but when I have any comparative idea of the manner in which I have treated the

Father of mercies, I am led to loathe and abhor myself, and to cry out "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death." But here I cannot pass unnoticed the infinite goodness, forbearance and compassion of God which sometimes enables me to exclaims with the meek Apostle, "Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Xt." Oh what cause for constant gratitude, love, praise and thanksgiving, for the "Love which the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the children of God"— Four six weeks past I have been in a measure deprived of the means of grace and have had but little action intercourse — my heart pants for it, and this evening would pain bound over the space which separates us and rest itself in the bosom of my mother and hear her speak of the dealings of God with her soul — This faithfulness to her thus far through her pilgrimage — I think the experience — growth in grace and in the knowledge of her Lord and Saviour, must be such that it would enable her to say much to admonish, instruct, strengthen and encourage me. I think also the nearer she approaches the heavenly Jerusalem the clearer must be her view of it — for the path of just is as the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. ~~shine~~ Be her King is continuing to heap upon her his mercies, how natural the consequence, that her love must increase — and her heart must be joyful when she sees no grey hairs increase not feels that her earthly tabernacle is going to decay; but at the same time knows that she "has a building of God, a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens," an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away reserved in heaven for her — Oh my dear Ma, if it is the will of our heavenly Father, I shall ere long again be permitted to see you — and enjoy sweet communion with you — — If till then let me enjoy your prayers that I too, may grow in grace, be rooted and grounded, and built up in the most holy faith — that I may have grace to discharge my duty in whatever station he see fit to place me — Never was I in a situation to need grace more than at present — never was my situation more responsible — and my obligations so ~~so~~ binding! — Perhaps my ~~dear~~ dear friends at home already know that I am separated from cousins family — that instead of accompanying them to Warsaw as we all expected — by watching the leadings of providence we were led to feel that our steps were directed another way — and here we, let me ask of you do not think if we sincerely desire to be placed where we ~~shall~~ can may glorify God, we be most useful to our fellow creatures — and will keep our eye fixed upon

the providences of God, ~~and~~ willing to be led by the
~~he~~ our path will be pointed out to us? and then how
ever difficult the task ~~may~~ may appear, or however
unimportant we may feel to perform it yet if
we will put our whole trust ~~in~~ the Saviour – will
he not give us grace and strength sufficient to do
duty – and may we not confidently hope that our labour
will not be in vain. Sometimes this thought alone sustains me in the performance of my task – ~~yet~~ all the
~~is~~ natural lack of patience, perseverance, & recollection,
~~and~~ and energy – their contrasts still hang about me
and tho at times grace enables me in a measure to overcome them – they are still living and among ~~the~~ my most
formidable foes to a growth in grace – as well as ~~in~~ [illegible]
~~the~~ the faithful discharge of other duties –
I share the care of the children, in the country boys-house
there are now thirty six, 9 of them are too young to receive an
education, and have mothers to take the care of them, & 4 others
school, 14 are here without mothers, from the age of 9 or 10 months
to 6 years – ~~my~~ my task is, to rise in the morning and see that
all are ready for their breakfast – learning those to wash themselves who are old enough, & washing the rest myself – combing
their hair – and dressing their sore heads (for I cannot them in
most pitiable situations) having had no one seemingly to care
for them) at ~~meal~~ past give each his piece of bread – See that all
are filled for school – repair with them to the school room
– at ~~noon~~ give a piece of bread and apple for dinner – after
school see that each has their supper and are prepared for
bed – ~~to~~ hear, and hear as consistent supply their numberless
requests, & see that their clothes are kept whole and comfortable – Thus you see my dear brother that my task
is not ~~a~~ arduous as well as filled with responsibility, for not
bodies only but their souls are committed to my care –
I feel that the motherless ones are in a peculiar manner my
charge – could ~~me~~ be separate from the other inmates of the house
I feel that my situation would be pleasant – but under the
same roof are 2 4 ~~or~~ adults, some deranged, some idiots, and
almost every character ~~not~~ calculated to have a pernicious example before a child – and while out of the schoolroom, or in my
own chamber they are surrounded by this poisonous atmosphere – ~~I~~
seem to be placed in a large field where weeds ~~grow~~ grow, to be
done, but one of my hands are tied behind me – In this accomplishment I need a double share of patience, and perseverance, and
wisdom – as well as every other christian grace. I think however
I see in so good a school for my own edification – and progress in
the likeness of my divine Master – but my slothfulness presents my improvement. – * I have said enough about
myself – now a few words more about dear ~~Sister~~ Sister – I know
I am greatly in debt, and should be more ~~to~~ punctual in my
letters – but I have been unable to account for the present ~~to~~ time, for I
have been unable to account for the present ~~to~~ time, for I
know my friends expect me to remain in debt – to know
yet I have nothing to say – I am unwilling to think myself
forgotten by them, I fear therefore I have ~~the~~ the privilege of your
affection – if so, let me entreat of you the privilege of your
pen by ~~that~~ it may ~~serve~~ serve to further our ~~hearts~~ – and stir us up
to the service of our God – My dear father, well does he get love? Tell him
I must ~~instruct~~ be ~~instructed~~ by ~~him~~ ~~that~~ he will not ~~be~~ ~~in~~ ~~correspondence~~ but ~~I~~ by ~~my~~ ~~will~~ to ~~write~~ his ~~letters~~ ~~if~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~long~~ ~~and~~ ~~tiresome~~ ~~to~~ ~~him~~ ~~–~~ ~~I~~ ~~often~~ ~~think~~
~~of~~ ~~his~~ ~~sermons~~ ~~&~~ ~~how~~ ~~long~~ ~~and~~ ~~tiresome~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ~~–~~

Mrs. Mary S. Fisher

Ruppert

Bennington Co. Vt.